
From: Hall, Lynda
To: Arazan, Nancy A.; Curtis, Cynthia; Engelberg, Ari; Flahive, Katie; Gabanski, Laura; Goldstein, Alisha; Goo, Robert; Hair, Lisa; Klasic, Meghan; Larsen, Erika; Lehman, Stuart; Parry, Roberta; Solloway, Chris; Wayne, Don
Sent: 9/25/2014 4:52:57 PM
Subject: Draft FY15 NSCB workplan
Attachments: Copy of FY15 owow workplan NSCB line 533.xlsx

All,

Attached FYI is the NSCB FY15 workplan request. It identifies Priority A items totaling \$1468K and Priority B items of \$730K (in rank order, per OWOW's instructions) for a total request of \$2198K. Funds for ORISE stipends have already been accounted for and taken off the top before development of this branch budget. For extramural funding, I was not able to fund any of your individual budget requests fully but have made a sincere attempt to balance the multitude of programmatic needs in our diverse branch.

In addition to extramural funds, the workplan includes estimated level of effort for staff and ORISE interns in each project area. The allocation of NSCB staff, intern, and extramural resources reflects the following thematic areas:

-Healthy Watersheds Program. This is the year we take the Healthy Watersheds Program to the next level with the Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant (HWCG). Both the Category A and total budgets allot about 40% of funds to Healthy Watersheds work, with most of these going to the HWCG. This is to get the grant program off to a strong start while maintaining core contract support for program technical and outreach activities, e.g., continued implementation of existing state assessments, peer review of same, etc. In category B, we include an item to get started on a framework for smaller-scale protection projects with 319 funds.

-319 program and watershed planning: enhanced support and focus on results. We will continue to strengthen the 319 program through implementation oversight of the new guidelines. We will enhance our ability to mine GRTS data for program management and highlighting and will issue the first "319 Highlights Report," telling the broader story of the how 319 funds catalyze NPS success. We will also look for ways to assist tribes and highlight their 319 successes. We will engage the regions to ensure achievement of the Agency Priority Goal to update state NPS management plans, and to assess issues emerging from the newly required review of watershed plans, if needed providing technical assistance. We will also make progress towards refining our existing measures to tell a fuller story of water quality improvements.

Our watershed planning tools in Watershed Central and Plan Builder are badly in need of O&M after a few years of (budget constrained) neglect so getting them updated is a priority. These pages continue to see a lot of traffic and be an important resource.

-Agricultural Water Quality Partnerships. Continued implementation of the NWQI is a top priority with a focus on engaging with the states and NRCS on strengthening the initiative, WQ monitoring and reporting progress metrics for NWQI. Through the AWPDP RFP we are soliciting projects with agricultural partners that focus on technical information, training and outreach focused on the 4 R's to reduce nutrient pollution and other high impact practices such as ag drainage water management. We will continue to support the nutrient sensor challenge and will reach out to the Field to Market corporate sustainability program with the goal of strengthening their water quality metric.

-Green infrastructure will continue to be a significant effort focusing in the following priority areas: 1) use the flood reduction benefits of GI to broaden interest and accelerate adoption of practices by other federal and state/local agencies; advance the use of GI in transportation rights-of-way and to offset paved surface impacts; and incorporating GI into existing green space to enhance stormwater management and provide other benefits.

-We will continue to implement the *CZARA coastal nonpoint program*, responding to the Oregon settlement agreement while continuing to review and comment on program submittals by several other states.

Thanks,
Lynda

